



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

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News Release

ICE RETURNS MAN WANTED FOR MURDER IN MEXICO
Fugitive wanted for his alleged involvement in murdering a Mexican Prosecutor

BROWNSVILLE, Texas — U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) late yesterday returned a Mexican man wanted for murder to officials from the Office of the Attorney General of Mexico.

Agapito Gracia-Gracia, 27, a citizen of Mexico, was turned over to Mexican authorities to face charges for murdering a Mexican prosecutor. The fugitive was returned at the Brownsville, Texas, Gateway International Bridge.

Mexico City authorities informed the local offices of ICE and the FBI of the location where Gracia-Gracia was thought to be hiding in the United States. Through close cooperation among ICE special agents, Mexican authorities and the FBI in Hattiesburg, Miss., Gracia-Gracia was located Feb. 3 and arrested. ICE investigative records indicate that Gracia-Gracia was illegally living in the United States. Gracia-Gracia accepted ICE's offer of voluntary return to Mexico.

"The United States is not a safe haven for criminals," said Marc J. Moore, field office director of ICE Office of Detention and Removal Operations in San Antonio. "The arrest of this murder suspect should send a strong message to fugitives worldwide that national borders will not serve as boundaries for the law. ICE will continue to work with our domestic and international law enforcement partners to locate these individuals and bring them to justice."

ICE investigators in San Antonio worked with the ICE Attaché in Mexico, representatives from the attorney general's office, and the FBI to finalize arrangements for Gracia-Gracia's return.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.